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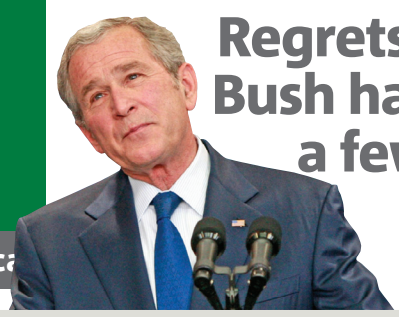
Celebrity Buzz

Fey strikes back in feud with Palin
pg 18

World pg 6

Regrets? Bush has a few



B.C. court may reopen sex offender's case

EVIDENCE The B.C. Court of Appeal will decide today whether to reopen the case of a man who has been in jail for 25 years for a number of sex crimes in Vancouver including rape and assault.

Lawyers for Ivan Henry, who has been in jail since 1983, argued yesterday that there are a number of problems with his conviction as well as new evidence that was not available at the time.

Henry has filed more than 50 submissions protesting his innocence and had a request to reopen the case rejected in 1997, according to media reports. METRO VANCOUVER

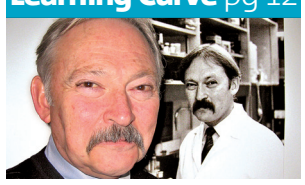
Comment pg 8

Faceoff on hockey fights

Your Money pg 10

Tips to shed financial flab

Learning Curve pg 12



UBC prof gets high honour

Please recycle

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Mayor Gregor Robertson, at city hall yesterday, is asking the province to amend the Vancouver Charter to grant the city borrowing authority to cover a $458-million funding gap for the Olympic Village development.

Mayor asks province for borrowing power

JEFF HODSON
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Vancouver's mayor wants the provincial government to amend the city's charter to allow the city to borrow about $458 million to complete the financially troubled Olympic Village.

Under its charter, Vancouver is not allowed to borrow money without asking taxpayers via an election-day referendum.

But being granted borrowing authority does not mean that the city would finance the project itself.

Rather the city could use the ability to borrow money as leverage in its negotiations with New York-based financier Fortress Investment Group.

Fortress ceased advancing funds in September when the loan became "out of balance" due to rising construction costs.

At a press conference at city hall yesterday, Mayor Gregor Robertson said borrowing authority is "a tool to use in the negotiations and the pursuit of capital to complete the project."

"We must focus on renegotiating the best deal possible for taxpayers and getting the project ready for the Games," he said.

Amendments to the Vancouver Charter would require Premier Gordon Campbell to reconvene the Legislative Assembly.

Speaking at a news event in Surrey yesterday, Campbell said the province wants to be part of the solution, but is waiting to see exactly what the city is asking for.

As well, city manager Penny Ballem shed further light on the $875-million development in a special council meeting yesterday afternoon. In it, she detailed the history of the project as well as the $458 million needed to complete the project.

Advance spent

- The last of a $100-million city advance will be spent this Thursday to keep construction on the project going for another month.

Avalanche death toll climbs to 13

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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FATALITIES The body of one of two men buried by the province's most recent avalanches has been recovered, while officials wait for safer conditions to recover the victim of the second slide.

The two avalanches, which happened near Sicamous and Chetwynd on Sunday, bring the death toll from B.C. slides this winter to 13.

Matt Simmons, 24, was killed while snowmobiling in the Mara Mountain area near Sicamous.

RCMP Sgt. Gord Molendyk said yesterday that around 30 snowmobilers helped search for Simmons, who was found late Sunday afternoon.

"Because he was not wearing a beacon, it took some time for them to locate him," Molendyk said.

Meanwhile, the search for another snowmobiler swept away in the avalanche near Chetwynd is on hold until technicians deem the area safe.

A group of 14 snowmobilers were able to dig the man's body out, but had to leave him there because of dangerous conditions.

"The name, age and other details of the deceased will not be released until identity can be confirmed," said RCMP Const. Craig Douglass.

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Abbotsford
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Crystal Square
Lougheed Mall
Metrotown/Metropolis
214B - 4501 North Rd.
4711 Kingsway
7531 Market Crossing
111 - 3823 Henning Dr.
204B - 3430 Brighton Ave.

Chilliwack
Cottonwood Mall
103 - 45300 Luckakuck Way
11 - 45905 Yale Rd.
7544B Vedder Rd.

Cloverdale
201 - 17725 64th Ave.

Coquitlam
Coquitlam Centre
101 - 3278 Westwood St.
5 - 3000 Lougheed Hwy.
2700B Barnet Hwy.
22 - 2988 Glen Dr.
2 - 901 Lougheed Hwy.

New Westminster
Royal City Centre

Delta
Scottsdale Mall
7235 120th St.
1517 56th St.

Langley
Walnut Grove Town Centre
Willowbrook Shopping Centre
3 - 19638 Fraser Hwy.
103 - 19700 Langley Bypass
C104 - 20159 88th Ave.
19971 96th Ave.
C7 - 20202 66th Ave.

Maple Ridge
22661 Lougheed Hwy.

Mission
100 - 32670 Lougheed Hwy.
318 - 32555 London Ave.

North Vancouver
Capilano Mall
127 - 1199 Lynn Valley Rd.
1295 Marine Dr.
1748 Lonsdale Ave.
1392 Main St.

Port Moody
202 Newport Dr.

Pitt Meadows
735 - 19800 Lougheed Hwy.

Richmond
Aberdeen Centre
Admiralty Centre Mall
Ironwood Mall
Lansdowne Mall
Parker Place
Richmond Centre
115 - 12571 Bridgeport Rd.

Surrey
Central City Shopping Centre
Guildford Town Centre
201 - 13734 104th Ave.
135 - 12477 88th Ave.
2404 King George Hwy.
1675 128th St.
108 - 7380 King George Hwy.
403 - 15940 Fraser Hwy.
10310A 152nd St.

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Park Royal Shopping Centre
North/South

White Rock
Semiahmoo Shopping Centre
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2008 bus passes honoured until Jan. 23
TransLink will continue to honour 2008 bus passes until Jan. 23, as a significant number of people on social assistance have not yet received their 2009 passes. The recent snowfalls caused delivery delays at Canada Post. Transit police and operators are aware of the extension. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

High school hits the slopes

A small mountain town is piloting the country's first high school program that also teaches snowboarding and skiing. Rossland, home to former Olympians Nancy Greene-Raine and Kerrin Lee-Gartner, is offering students the chance to combine academics and professional coaching in their chosen winter sport. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Police probe slaying of two seniors

Murders not linked: Cops

JEFF HODSON
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Two Vancouver seniors have been murdered in their downtown apartments, police said yesterday, becoming the first and second homicides of 2009.

Police said the murders are not connected.

The first occurred Thursday evening at a single-room occupancy hotel in the Downtown Eastside.

A friend discovered Carmelo DiBella, 77, dead in his room at 16 East Hastings St.

The death was deemed suspicious, but was upgraded to a homicide following an autopsy, Vancouver Const. Tim Fanning said yesterday. Police would not say how DiBella died.

Fanning added that by all accounts, the 77-year-old was a "very pleasant man."

About 9:30 p.m. Sunday, a 65-year-old man was discovered by acquaintances dead in his apartment in the 900 block of Richards Street.

Fanning said the murder appeared "targeted" but would not say how the man died.

The man, whose identity has not been released, did have a criminal record, Fanning said yesterday.

ShareYourViews
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JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Const. Tim Fanning speaks at police headquarters in Vancouver yesterday. Fanning said two men, aged 77 and 65, have become the city's first and second homicides of 2009.

Construction begins on $1B, 4-lane road

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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INFRASTRUCTURE Construction has officially begun on the South Fraser Perimeter Road, a $1-billion project to link industrial facilities with local highways, Prime Minster Stephen Harper announced in Surrey yesterday.

The new 40-kilometre, four-lane road, which is part of B.C.'s Gateway Program, will connect port facilities, rail yards and industrial areas to highways 1, 91 and 99, improving transportation and reducing congestion.

"The (project) is a concrete example of how (the provincial and federal) government is working together to take the steps needed to protect Canada's economy and strengthen its foundations for the future," said Harper.

Premier Gordon Campbell said the project will create around 7,000 new jobs by 2021, and build B.C.'s economic competitiveness by "streamlining the movement of goods and people."

Three bid teams — Fraser Transportation Group, South River Connector and the Riverway Partnership — have been shortlisted for the job of staging, designing, building, financing and maintaining the road.

Protest

- Protesters opposed to the highway expansion gathered outside the conference in Surrey, saying the contruction will harm nearby ecosystems.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Vancouver yesterday.

Ellard may be headed for 4th trial in swarming death

APPEAL Crown prosecutors in the case against Kelly Ellard were given the go-ahead yesterday to appeal the convicted killer's overturned murder conviction.

Ellard, 25, was convicted of second-degree murder in 2005, in the swarming death of Victoria teenager Reena Virk.

It was her third trial — the first being overturned on appeal in 2000, and the second ending in a hung jury in 2004.

In September, Ellard's lawyer won an appeal to overturn the murder conviction, paving the way for a possible fourth trial.

Yesterday, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the prosecution would be allowed to ask the court to uphold Ellard's 2005 murder conviction, quashing the defence's attempt to block the appeal.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

History

- Warren Glowatski, who was 16 when Virk was killed, was convicted of second-degree murder in the deadly swarming and granted parole after eight years.

News in brief

SPRAY A New Westminster police officer was pepper-sprayed while arresting two young men in an underground parking garage, news1130.com reports. Both men were arrested and face charges of assaulting a police officer and theft.

CHILLIWACK The City of Chilliwack and Fraser Valley Regional District held a pair of information meetings yesterday for residents affected by recent floods and landslides, cknw.com reports. Representatives from the provincial emergency program also discussed disaster financial assistance.

RALLY A group of elderly activists known as the Raging Grannies helped the B.C. Health Coalition kick off a province-wide senior's health campaign in Vancouver yesterday. The group is calling on B.C. to provide better, more accessible and long-term health care to seniors. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Injured woman taken into custody

SUSPECT A woman who was injured when police tried to stop a suspected stolen vehicle in New Westminster yesterday has been arrested.

Police confirmed officers fired guns in an attempt to stop the car, but didn't say if the woman, a passenger in the vehicle, was shot.

New Westminster police Sgt. Gary Weishaar said the incident began around 1 a.m. when police tried to box in the vehicle at a McDonald's drive-thru.

He said the driver tried to smash through the two cruisers. The officers fired their guns, stopping the car and arresting its occupants.

The female passenger was taken to hospital with minor injuries. After her release, she was transferred to police custody.

METRO VANCOUVER

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video A Montreal plan to boost business for horse-drawn carriages could be killing the industry at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Allan Small on why 2009 is the year to make the most of your RRSP contribution at **metronews.ca/canada**

January is dump month

According to a study released by Yahoo! Personals, nearly four out of 10 people are likely to reassess their relationship between the December holidays and Valentine's Day. Anna Zornosa, vice-president and general manager of Yahoo! Personals, attributes the breakup season to unhappy couples sticking it out together over Christmas. **METRO CANADA**

Canada

Vicks VapoRub can harm infants: Study

Vicks VapoRub can be harmful for infants and toddlers, according to a study released today. The research, authored by Canadian Dr. Bruce Rubin of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., shows the product may increase airway inflammation and mucus production, which could hamper breathing in young children whose airways are already narrow. The product's label says the salve should not be used on children under two.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada opposes condemning Israel

Country only one of 47 on UN human-rights council to vote against stern motion

Canada stood alone before a United Nations human-rights council yesterday, the only one among 47 nations to oppose a motion condemning the Israeli military offensive in Gaza.

The vote before the Geneva-based body shows the Stephen Harper government has abandoned a more even-handed approach to the Middle East in favour of unalloyed support of Israel, according to some longtime observers.

Thirty-three countries voted for the strongly worded motion, which called for an investigation into "grave" human-rights violations by Israeli forces, while 13 nations, mostly European, abstained.

Marius Grinius, Canada's representative on the council, said the language of the motion, which accused Israel of sparking a humanitarian crisis, was "unnecessary, unhelpful and inflammatory."

He said the text failed to "clearly recognize" that Hamas rocket attacks on Israel triggered the crisis.

But observers say Ottawa's unwavering support of Israel in the current conflict is a break from more neutral positions of the past.

Paul Heinbecker, a former Canadian ambassador to the UN, said that although Canada was always considered "a friend of Israel," until recently Ottawa's representatives at the UN voted on Middle East issues on the basis of "principle" and "fair-mindedness."

He said Canada is increasingly seen as being on the American-Israeli side, but assessing yesterday's vote at the UN's human-rights council, Heinbecker pointed out "the resolution is unbalanced" in its repeated condemnations of Israel.

The council has faced accusations that it is biased against Israel.

The United States has declined to be a member of the council on the grounds its heavy focus on Israel has undermined its credibility.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Who's in, who's out

- Along with Arab states, countries backing the resolution included Russia, China and Brazil.
- Among the countries which abstained were Britain, France, Japan and South Korea.

News in brief

B.C. Residential home sales in B.C. dropped 31 per cent last year compared to 2007, according to a report released yesterday by the B.C. Real Estate Association. The report found the global financial crisis "wreaked havoc on consumer confidence."

EDMONTON A man who terrorized and handcuffed his partner's daughter, 4, to a milk crate has been denied his appeal. Darcy Don Bannert was sentenced to eight years in prison for assaulting the girl in June 2007.

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Calgary **Snowed-in vehicles**

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CANADA

Cars left to fend for themselves in the winter are posing some difficulty for city road crews and drivers, with narrowing roads as snow is plowed against them. But Calgary's bylaw boss says as long as the vehicles are licensed, registered and insured, they are allowed to stay parked.

Canada's human-rights history a 'disgrace,' Amnesty group says

UN Canada could soon find itself "named and shamed" as a country that violates human rights in a United Nations review.

Close to 50 submissions blasting Canada — on everything from the state of indigenous peoples to problems with immigration policy — have been filed with the Geneva-based United Nations Human Rights Council as part of a new review process for UN nations.

"To be criticized doesn't mean Canada has joined the worst of the worst (abusing nations)," said Alex Neve, secretary-general of Amnesty International Canada, of Canada's review that begins on Feb. 3. "But as a general rule, Canadians are proud this is a country that believes in human rights and do want our governments (federal, provincial and territorial) to do the right thing."

The Amnesty submission highlights several concerns. In a section on indigenous rights, it notes more children are in the care of the state now than during the century-plus period when they were forcibly removed from communities and sent to Indian residential schools.

"The Canadian record of upholding the rights of indigenous peoples is a real disgrace and a source of national shame," said Neve. "These are not political, economic or natural resource matters. These are issues of human rights."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"The Canadian record of upholding rights of indegenous peoples is a real disgrace and a source of national shame."
Alex Neve

Create a single group to address financial instability: Panel
Canada should push ahead with efforts to create a national securities regulator without necessarily waiting for consent from provinces opposed to the idea, a government-commissioned panel recommended yesterday. REUTERS

Pregnant woman gets deportation reprieve

A pregnant woman who was to be deported to China yesterday was granted a rare last-minute extension to stay in Canada.

Just two days before Juan Yun Chen, 28, and her 10-month-old son were scheduled to leave; she received a rare minister's permit, a direct intervention from the federal immigration minister, allowing her to remain here for another year.

"We are so happy," said Chen. "Thank you to everyone who helped us."

The Toronto Star wrote about her the red tape that had bogged down her immigration application last month.

Despite an inland sponsorship application filed by her Canadian husband more than a year ago, she was still slated for deportation by Canada Border Services Agency.

Until they received the phone call Friday night from Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney's office, the family believed they had run out of options, said husband Jin Ming Wu.

> **"There are hundred of others who are being deported as we speak."**
> Olivia Chow

"We didn't know what to do," he said. "We were looking for help."

But though Chen will be able to stay, her immigration application is still expected to take months to process, said Olivia Chow, the NDP immigration critic who has been following the case.

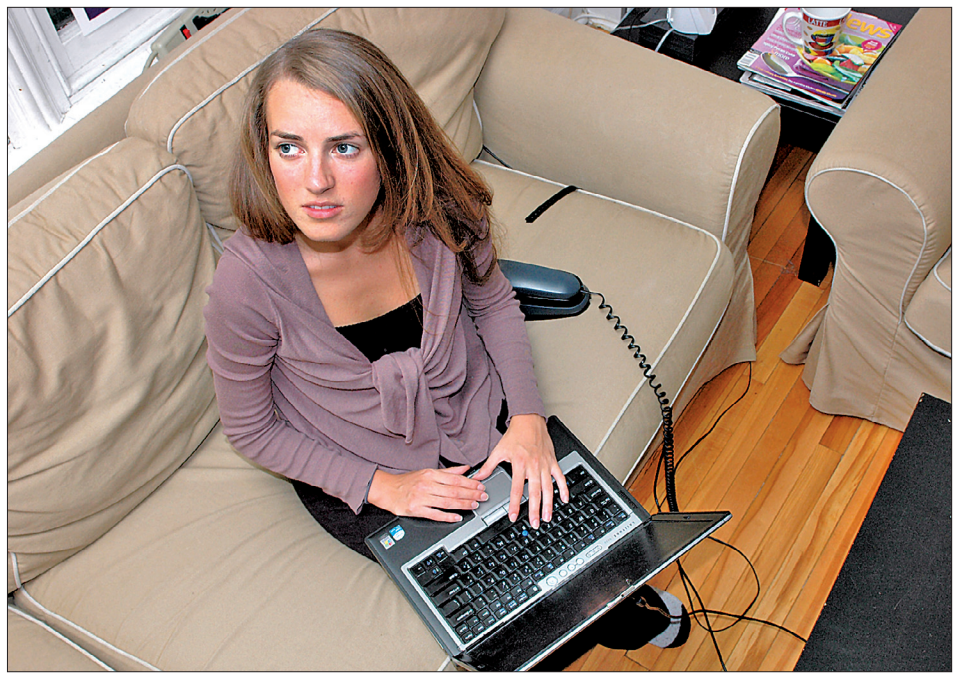
"It was rare for the minister to intervene in this way," said Chow.

"The simpler thing for the government to do would be to get her file finished and done."

Kenney's involvement is reflective of a flawed regulation still in place, Chow said.

"There are hundred of others who are being deported as we speak," she said. "The law has to change. We have to stop the deportation of spouses waiting for their inland sponsorship to come through."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



TIM WIECLAWSKI / METRO OTTAWA

Camille Labchuk, 24, was disqualified from CBC's Canada's Next Great Prime Minister show.

'PM' hopeful ousted from race

TRACEY TONG
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Ottawa's Camille Labchuk thinks she would have made a great political leader.

The 24-year-old communications consultant has very strong views on what Canada needs, on issues from climate change to improving quality of life for citizens.

So when CBC asked her to be a contestant on their nationally televised competition Canada's Next Great Prime Minister — which airs in March — she was thrilled.

"I've poured myself into the competition for the last two months," said Labchuk.

> **"It's our mistake."**
> CBC spokesman Jeff Keay

She and her campaign team spent more than 200 hours researching policy, filming videos and encouraging people to vote.

Her efforts paid off as she became the highest-rated contestant in the program's web competition, meaning she would have automatically reached the semifinals next week.

That's why she was shocked when CBC disqualified her Friday after learning she had run for Parliament in 2006.

Before entering the competition, she told producers that she had run as the Green Party candidate in Moncton-Riverview-Dieppe in 2006. They had given her the OK.

"I feel utterly crushed," she said. "This was a jading experience … I poured my heart and soul into the competition and encouraged people to vote for me online. She's also hired a lawyer to possibly pursue legal action.

"We apologized to Camille when we spoke to her," Jeff Keay, a spokesman for CBC told Metro yesterday. "It's our mistake and Camille shouldn't have been told that she was eligible."

Police search for Edmonton arsonists

CRIME Police are looking for four teens who were seen running from an upscale cul-de-sac in Edmonton's southwest where home owned by a former oil executive was firebombed Saturday night.

Investigators have determined two Molotov cocktails caused the fire that destroyed the home at 1744 Bearspaw Dr. W, police confirmed yesterday.

Police also say a witness spotted a four teens "running from the area," but city cops could not find any suspects after searching the area.

Investigators have not determined a motive.

METRO CANADA

News in brief

INSURANCE A group of injured drivers in Nova Scotia have lost their court battle to have a $2,500 cap on personal-injury claims thrown out. The group, called the Coalition against No-Fault Insurance, took the province to court in 2004. Two of its members, Melissa Gionet – who was seven months' pregnant when a 2003 accident left her unable to go back to her old job – and Anna Marie MacDonald complained that the cap discriminated against them as women who would suffer more economically because of the cap, and as people disabled by their car accidents. In a decision released yesterday, the judge ruled the province has the right to set the cap as it did. METRO CANADA

New program encourages female lawyers to stay on

EMPLOYMENT A new program in Calgary was announced yesterday in an effort to reduce the number of female lawyers leaving the profession in the city.

> **16** The percentage of senior lawyers that are female in Calgary.

Research showed that only 16 per cent of lawyers in senior positions are female, and many leave the profession to find more "life balance", according to Lilith Law program designer Ronnalee McMahon.

"We're really hoping this program helps us to tackle the attrition rates of women in the profession," she said.

"Many women are embracing the program that they say is long overdue," she added.

The six-month mentoring program is the first of its kind in Canada and will allow protégées with meaningful experiences to help advance other women through their own experiences.

"The mentorship is really important because it gets women together who have shared similar experiences," McMahon said, of the program that launches at the end of the month.

METRO CANADA

Teacher who slapped autistic student still on board's payroll

ASSAULT A Nova Scotia teacher convicted of slapping an autistic student across the face is still drawing a salary, more than two months after being found guilty of assault.

In February 2008, teacher David Merrill Sheffield was in a Bedford junior high school yard talking to a 15-year-old autistic student who also has ADHD and suffers panic attacks. The student waved his mitten and got some salt in Sheffield's eyes.

Sheffield then reportedly hit the student on the right side of the face with the palm of his hand. The boy then ran away to find the principal, saying that he would get Sheffield fired.

Sheffield went on paid leave that day and was convicted of assault Oct. 28, 2008.

He'll be sentenced Feb. 13. But the school board hasn't leveled any sanctions, and Sheffield remains on paid leave.

"I'm not going to be sympathetic with this because he's a teacher," said the boy's father.

"These special-needs children didn't ask to be the way they are."

The father wished to remain anonymous to protect the identity of his son.

Sheffield was charged with an unrelated assault outside the school just six days earlier.

METRO CANADA

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Turkish police unearth explosives in coup probe

Turkish police found several explosives and bullets in Ankara in a probe linked to coup plot allegations yesterday, the state Anatolian news agency said. Some 40 people, including army officers, were detained this month in a case that has further tested relations between the government and the powerful military. REUTERS

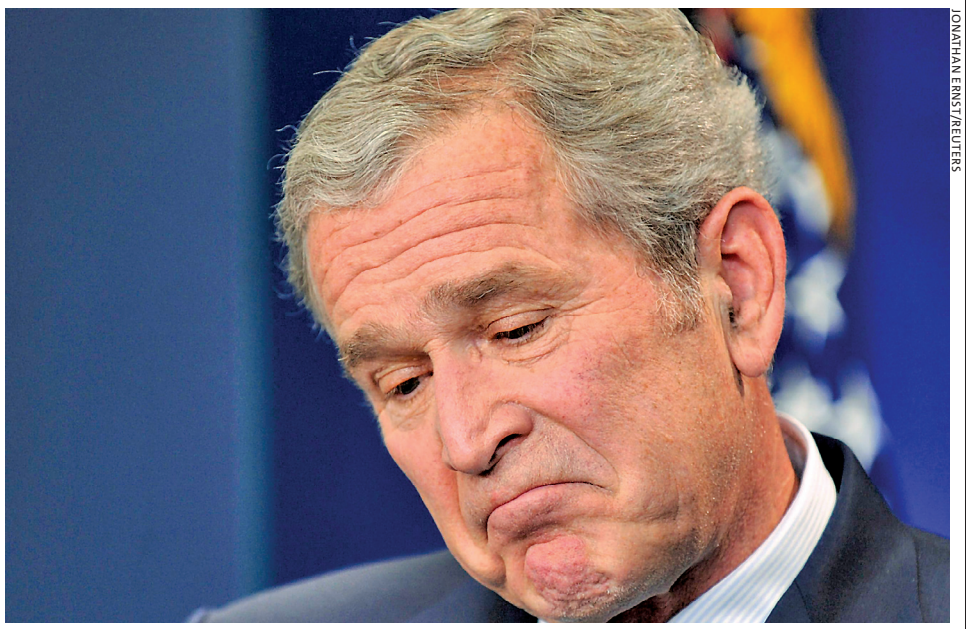
World

First World War veteran dies

One of the last three remaining British veterans from the First World War has died at age 108, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday. Bill Stone, who joined the Royal Navy in 1918 and also took part in the 1940 evacuation of Dunkirk, died at a care home in Berkshire in southeast England on Saturday. He was the last known veteran to serve in both world wars. REUTERS

Regrets? Bush has a few

U.S President George W. Bush, winding up eight years in office, expressed regrets yesterday over policies blocked by Congress, weapons of mass destruction not found in Iraq and the harsh political tone in Washington.



JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

U.S. President George W. Bush addresses the media during his final news conference in the Brady press briefing room at the White House in Washington yesterday.

But he defended his actions during one of the biggest debacles of his presidency — hurricane Katrina of 2005 — and said history would be his judge after he leaves the White House on Jan. 20.

"You know, presidents can try to avoid hard decisions and therefore avoid controversy. That's just not my nature," Bush said in his final news conference before turning power to his successor, Barack Obama.

Bush, by turn wistful, reflective and defiant, conceded that mistakes had been made.

The Mission Accomplished banner as the backdrop for a speech on an aircraft carrier in May 2003, less than two months after the invasion of Iraq, was "clearly" a mistake, he said.

"It sent the wrong message. We were trying to say something differently."

The Abu Ghraib scandal of U.S. soldiers mistreating prisoners in Iraq that shocked the world "obviously was a huge disappointment during the presidency," Bush said.

In recent years, an increasingly unpopular Iraq war weighed down Bush's public approval ratings, which took a further hit from the economic downturn.

The main U.S. justification for the war was that Iraq possessed stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction and posed a threat, but no such weapons were found after the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003. REUTERS

U.S. backs Israel; Gaza death toll passes 900

PALESTINE Israel won renewed support from its main ally — the United States — yesterday when President George W. Bush said a ceasefire to end its offensive in the Gaza Strip depended on Hamas ending its rocket fire on Israeli towns.

As the Palestinian death toll surpassed 900, troops tightened their grip around urban areas in search of elusive guerrillas. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Israel would pursue the 17-day-old war for as long as necessary.

Troops and tanks, backed by warplanes and helicopters that mounted more than 25 air strikes, probed guerrilla defences around the city of Gaza, wary of snipers and booby traps.

Hamas fighters kept largely out of sight, firing several rockets into Israel and bracing for an all-out assault that may yet come.

As international diplomats worked with Egypt on a truce plan, an Israeli army spokesman said the army had yet to launch a much-heralded "Phase 3" of the war. REUTERS

Hamas

- Hamas' leader in Gaza made a rare television and radio broadcast from a secret site, promising "victory is at hand."

Obama seeking remaining $350B in U.S. bailout money

WASHINGTON U.S. president-elect Barack Obama yesterday sought the remaining $350 billion US of federal financial bailout funds from Congress, pledging a major overhaul that would distribute the money more widely and impose tougher restrictions on recipient companies.

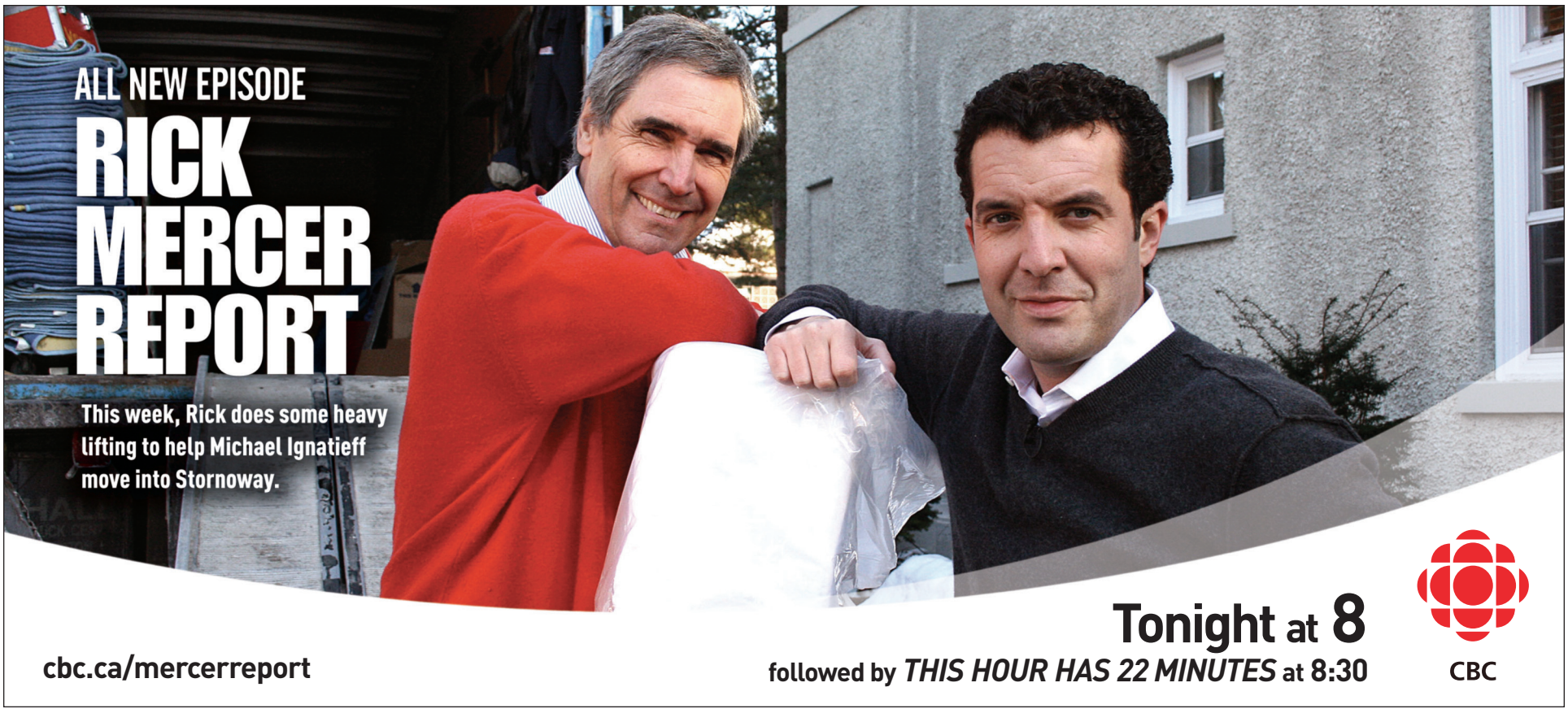
"We're going to focus on housing foreclosures, we're going to focus on small businesses, we're going to focus on what's required to make sure that credit is flowing to consumers and businesses," Obama said.

President George W. Bush submitted the request for the leftover funds to Congress yesterday on Obama's behalf. REUTERS

News in brief

ILLINOIS Roland Burris yesterday won his bid to fill the seat in the U.S. Senate vacated by president-elect Barack Obama, after being appointed to the seat by embattled Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich in December.

ALABAMA A pilot wanted on fraud charges parachuted out of his plane over Alabama and allowed the aircraft to crash in neighbouring Florida in an apparent attempt to fake his death, media reported yesterday. The pilot survived and checked into an Alabama hotel under a false name, and then fled, a Florida sheriff's officer said. REUTERS



Britain's 1911 census goes online
Census details of the 36 million people living in England and Wales in 1911 go online for the first time today, three years earlier than planned after a freedom of information ruling. REUTERS

Madoff decision to be appealed

Ruling lets alleged swindler to remain under house arrest in penthouse

U.S. federal prosecutors said yesterday they will appeal a judge's decision that allows accused swindler Bernard Madoff to stay in his Manhattan apartment under house arrest.

"The government intends to appeal the (magistrate) court's order to the district court," Acting U.S. Attorney Lev Dassin said in a letter to U.S. Magistrate Judge Ronald Ellis.

Earlier in the day, Ellis issued a ruling, rejecting a government request to throw Madoff in jail.

The ruling gives Madoff, who has become one of the most vilified figures in America, more time in his $7 million home before he goes to trial or pleads guilty as authorities probe a $50 billion investment fraud to which they say he confessed a month ago.

Madoff's lawyers have said their client is cooperating with government investigations following his Dec. 11 arrest for what would be the biggest Ponzi scheme in history. In a Ponzi scheme, early investors are paid with the money of new clients.

MIKE SEGAR/REUTERS
Media and onlookers crowd the doorway outside the home of accused swindler Bernard Madoff.

The government has until mid-February to convince a grand jury to bring an indictment against Madoff, a former chairman of the NASDAQ stock market and a once-respected figure for more than 40 years in a financial industry that is already reeling in crisis. Ellis said in a written ruling yesterday: "Aside from the bare assertion that there remains some risk of flight, the government has failed to articulate any flaw in the current conditions of release."

Prosecutors asked the judge last week to revoke bail, arguing that Madoff had violated a Dec. 18 court order freezing his assets by mailing more than $1 million worth of valuables to relatives and friends.

> **"The guy is on electronic monitoring, he has a guard watching him every day, and the press is watching his every move."**
> Daniel Margolis

Legal experts said it was hard for the government to argue that 70-year-old Madoff might flee.

"The guy is on electronic monitoring, he has a guard watching him every day, and the press is watching his every move," said Daniel Margolis, a partner at law firm Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP and a former federal prosecutor.

Angry investors and their lawyers have said they wanted Madoff to go to jail immediately.

REUTERS

Pro-mafia Facebook pages spark alarm in Italy

INTERNET Leading Italian anti-mafia activists expressed alarm yesterday that Facebook pages dedicated to praise of some of Cosa Nostra's most notorious and bloody bosses have attracted hundreds of young admirers.

"Fan clubs" of jailed mafia bosses have appeared on Italian pages of the social networking site. Libera is involved in many anti-mafia activities, including acquiring farms and buildings confiscated from the mafia. REUTERS

Court OKs Honda false claims suit

ADVERTISING A California appeals court has cleared the way for the owner of a hybrid Honda Civic to sue the car's maker for false advertising, claiming Honda has had so many complaints about the hybrid it has told U.S. regulators it wants to revise the mileage rating. REUTERS

Protesters march at funeral of slain newspaper editor in Sri Lanka

Thousands marched in the funeral procession of a slain Sri Lankan newspaper editor in the capital Colombo on yesterday demanding the government punish those responsible to ensure media freedom and democracy.

A packed crowd gathered at the entrance of Sri Lanka's main cemetery in one of the largest protests in recent memory, blocking roads and vowing to fight until democracy was restored.

Sunday Leader chief editor Lasantha Wickramatunga was gunned down in traffic on Thursday morning and died in hospital soon afterwards. The government promised a thorough investigation.

The United States, the European Union, Canada and India have all condemned the killing and demanded a swift investigation.

Diplomats, opposition politicians, journalists and rights activists all marched in the hours-long procession.

> **"No other profession calls on its practitioners to lay down their lives for their art save the armed forces and, in Sri Lanka, journalism."**
> Sri Lankan newspaper editorial

"This death is a serious blow to democracy and media freedom," opposition leader Ranil Wickremasinghe said.

The opposition, which is anticipating a possible early election, has accused the government of responsibility for the attack. Some protesters burned an effigy of President Mahinda Rajapaksa and many wore black armbands.

Rajapaksa has said that international forces were behind the attack and were trying to distract attention from two major military victories against the separatist Tamil Tigers in the last two weeks.

Both he and Wickramatunga had said they were friends for decades, despite differing once Rajapaksa took office.

Press freedom groups say the Indian Ocean island nation has major dangers for journalists, described on Sunday — three days after his death — in an editorial the Leader attributed to Wickramatunga entitled "And Then They Came For Me".

"No other profession calls on its practitioners to lay down their lives for their art save the armed forces and, in Sri Lanka, journalism," the editorial said.

Amnesty International says 14 media workers have been killed in Sri Lanka, and Wickramatunga said in his editorial that he had long expected to join that list. REUTERS

News in brief

POLITICS Iran's Mohammad Khatami, who won presidential elections in 1997 and 2001 with landslides, signalled yesterday that he was considering running in this year's race for Iranian presidency.

ECONOMY Germany's ruling coalition reached an agreement yesterday on a new economic stimulus package worth 50 billion euros aimed at helping Europe's largest economy.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

A moment Canada can savour

National**Report**

"Drumroll please," came the American TV man's deeply sarcastic voice, announcing the location of Barack Obama's first foreign trip. "It's Canada."

What a letdown! What a bore!

Many expected the new U.S. president to open with something exotic. Maybe South Africa to see Mandela! What a jump-start message that would send the world.

But slumbering Canada? How does that constitute change? Most every U.S. president, George W. Bush being an exception, has come here first.

Never mind though. We'll take the honour. In the case of the most celebrated incoming president in decades, what an honour it is.

The media focus will be off the charts. The Obama visit could well set the new tone for this administration — accommodation in dealing with foreign countries as opposed to the confrontation that marked the Bush years.

"This is the beginning of an initiative by the president," said Gordon Giffin, a former ambassador to Canada, "to be followed around the world by the new secretary of state, that we're back in the mode of listening to our friends and co-ordinating with our friends, as opposed to sitting in Washington and instructing our friends."

Obama will likely address Parliament and, in so doing, set the stage for a much improved relationship with Canada. He can hardly do worse than Bush, whose Department of Homeland Stupidity has continued to put up barriers along the border between two of history's greatest friends — even though we're now more than seven years past 9/11.

If the Obama administration is aiming for a new era of trust, this continent is a good place to start.

Stephen Harper will be looking, as any politician would be, for an opportunity to share in the Obama glow. Being a conservative, having been in sync with a good portion of the Bush philosophy, it wouldn't normally be an easy thing to do.

But the dismal economic conditions are already forcing a liberal turn on the prime minister. The deficit spending and the stimulus spending to bolster the economy reflect what Obama will be doing south of the border.

Moreover, the president and the prime minister can make headway on what they have both talked about — a cap-and-trade system to combat global warming.

Given the energy security needs of Washington, Harper will have some clout at the table. If the president wants to wade into protectionist waters, the PM need only mention our oil and gas riches.

All in all, the visit sets up ideally for Harper. Like Bush, he has brought an arrogant and confrontational attitude to governance.

Now, by basking in Obama's new way, he has a chance to pretend it never happened.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

Dropping the gloves on fighting in hockey

Ken Campbell
CON

I just got off the phone with Mike Sanderson. He told me beautiful stories about a 21-year-old honours student who would do anything for a friend or a teammate. Then he told me how he and his ex-wife looked at each other New Year's Day and decided to take their son off life support and how they stood by his bed while he took his last breaths a couple hours later.

Don Sanderson is dead because of a meaningless hockey fight in a meaningless game that was already decided because hockey has this ridiculous code that requires teams that are losing to "send a message."

Let's take a different message instead. Let's use this incident to ban fighting at all levels of hockey, including the NHL. Let's never allow anyone to go through what Mike and Dahna Sanderson are enduring again.

I have long believed it would only be a matter of time before a player died in a fight, and someday it won't be in a senior league game in Brantford; it will be at centre ice at Madison Square Garden or the Air Canada Centre.

And it is all so meaningless. If fighting is such an important part of the game, why does play stop when a fight breaks out?

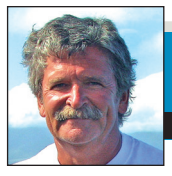
There may have been a purpose to fighting at one time, but the reality is that fighting has become nothing more than a creepy sideshow for blood lusting voyeurs. It's apparently supposed to protect skilled players, but what is accomplished when two goons go at it after a star is hit?

And if it's supposed to keep players honest and prevent them from clubbing each other with their sticks, isn't that the biggest indictment of all on hockey? The game is incapable of policing itself, so the players have to do it?

The culture of violence that surrounds this game is astounding. Without fighting, hockey would be every bit as intense, hits would be every bit as hard and the competition would be every bit as fierce.

Hockey can keep its fighting spirit without keeping fighting as a blight on the game.

Ken Campbell is a writer for The Hockey News.



Jim Van Horne
PRO

I don't consider myself to be a violent person. In fact, I'm a lover, not a fighter. I hate violence of any kind. Except when it comes to hockey. Give me a hockey fight between two willing and able combatants and my blood gets goin'.

I have been watching hockey my entire life. I had the privilege of covering the sport at the local and national levels for more than 35 years. I've been to Stanley Cup finals, world championships, world junior championships and the Olympics.

I love the sport, and I believe that fighting is part of the game. It's been an element that teams have used for intimidation, protection, and even winning. Today's hockey fights are different than they were before the original expansion in 1967-68. Back then, fighters were also players, fulfilling a dual role. Not only could they scare you with their fists, but with their skill as well — John Ferguson was a prime example.

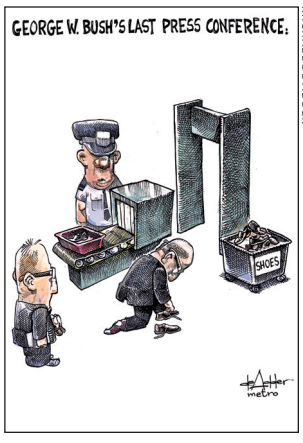
The first game I went to at Maple Leaf Gardens featured a major brawl between the Maple Leafs and the Blackhawks. I think Pierre Pilote was one of the fighters. It was in the penalty box, and Frank Mahovolich climbed the glass to separate the combatants. I'd never seen anything like it, and until that time it was one of the most exciting things I had ever seen in my life.

It's a part of the game fans absolutely love. There is nothing that brings them out of the seats faster than a good knuckle-chuck.

Yes, it was a fight that resulted in the recent death of the Whitby Dunlops' Don Sanderson — a terrible, senseless loss — but it was an accident. Players do not go on the ice with the intention of killing each other. I can't remember another incident where a player died as a direct result of a fight. Unfortunately, drivers are killed racing cars, mountain climbers die pursuing their passion, and divers drown when they go too deep. That doesn't mean these sports should be banned.

Fighting is part of hockey, always has been and always should be.

Jim Van Horne is a veteran Canadian broadcaster.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Quote of the Day

"I think historians will look back and they'll be able to have a better look at mistakes after some time has passed. There is no such thing as short-term history."

— U.S. PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, AT HIS FINAL MEDIA CONFERENCE, TALKING ABOUT REGRETS DURING HIS EIGHT YEARS IN OFFICE.

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Overwhelming demand for Windows 7
Downloads of the public test version of Microsoft's new Windows 7 operating system began on Saturday, after the "beta" launch scheduled for Friday was delayed to add more servers. Microsoft also eliminated its 2.5 million download limit. REUTERS

Business

DOLLAR		OIL	
1.70¢	C$ 82.28¢ US US$ $1.2154		$37.59 US $3.24

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Energy **Hot technology**

REUTERS/ANTONY NJUGUNA

Engineers work at a well in the KenGen Geothermal Energy power station in Naivasha, some 117 kilometres from Nairobi, Kenya, yesterday. Geothermal energy, natural heat stored within the earth, is extracted through wells and piped to a turbine, which rotates a generator.

Credit tight, sentiment low

Lending conditions in Canada worsened considerably in the fourth quarter and overall business sentiment is at its lowest level in at least a decade, two Bank of Canada surveys showed yesterday.

The central bank surveyed senior loan officers at 11 major banks and senior management at about 100 businesses during the quarter in two separate studies.

"Business sentiment has deteriorated markedly since the autumn survey, as the effects of the international financial crisis and the weak global economy intensified and spread to domestic demand," the bank said.

The pessimism had some bankers predicting the Bank of Canada will opt for a half-point cut in its key lending rate rather than a less aggressive move on Jan. 20. Charmaine Buskas, senior economics strategist at TD Securities, predicting the bank could trim 50 basis points.

The loan officers reported two-thirds of companies felt tighter credit conditions, compared with 44 per cent in the third quarter, both in terms of price and in terms and standards. They attributed it to the worsening economic outlook.

Business owners were pessimistic as well: Three-quarters of those surveyed think inflation will stay below the central bank's two per cent target in the next two years. REUTERS

Size matters in the trading world

STUDY British researchers found traders with the longest ring fingers made three times what their less-endowed colleagues earned. Testosterone exposure in the womb can determine finger length — as well as concentration and quick reflexes. REUTERS

In brief

TAKEOVER Air France-KLM said it will buy a 25 per cent stake in Alitalia for $525 million US.

BAILOUT General Motors says it wants to clarify the terms of borrowing before it accepts $4 billion in emergency loans from the federal and Ontario governments. REUTERS

Markets can't rouse oil from slump

ENERGY Oil settled down nearly eight per cent yesterday, dragged below $38 US by the growing impact of the economic recession on energy consumption.

Russia and Ukraine signed a deal to end a week-long cut-off of Russian gas supplies to Europe.

But the market seemed unresponsive to the good news, including that OPEC members may cut production by a further 300,000 barrels per day, and that heating oil demand in the United States will climb above average this week due to cold weather. REUTERS

eBay Sellers are Making $10,000+ a Month

By James Ryder

Why settle for mediocre pay and long hours when it is possible to make over $100,000 a year from the comfort of your home?

Over 170 million people are registered eBay users and 1.3 million are making a full-time living through online auctioning, leaving their everyday jobs.

Dan Lok, online auction and internet expert, is one of many people who have left the mundane aspect of a 9-to-5 desk job and begun to make his own income at home. Now Lok is making around $10,000 a month.

"People shouldn't wait until they find themselves out of a job before they find out they are not financially secure," Lok said. "They should start ensuring their own and their family's financial future immediately."

Not only does eBay allow people to make money and get rid of some things that may no longer be of use, there are more benefits than cash. If a seller can make $1,000 a month or more, they can qualify for most of the same benefits that are available in a regular 9-to-5 job, such as health, vision and dental. Over 200,000 members of eBay qualify for these benefits and more.

Not only does using eBay at home cut back on paying for gas and having to deal with the hassle of rush hour traffic, but also consumer demands through the Internet are continually growing, allowing for a higher income rate per seller.

One source says on average one car is sold every two minutes, a car part or accessory sold every three seconds, diamond jewelry every eighty-three seconds, and a pair of Timberland shoes every ten minutes. These items and more, from concert tickets to stamps and coins, are sold daily by average people looking to gain an income or better their current cash flow.

Mike, another successful eBay seller.

"Anybody can do it if they know the right technique," Lok said. "With the right techniques it's easy to make extra income."

It is rather easy to get started in the process and become acquainted with the techniques.

With a little homework, access to an Internet-ready computer, and some basic computer knowledge, anyone can be on their way to becoming a member of the fastest growing community in the Canada and the U.S.

"Why wait to win the lottery," Lok said, "when selling on eBay is like winning the lotto every day."

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- ✓ **Discover the Secret Internet Marketing Weapon to get your loads of FREE visitors and targeted web traffic... willing to spend money on YOUR product or service!**
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These people, just like you, are using eBay and the Internet to generate huge profits!

$7,202.50 profit from eBay!
"I have recently sold a few items on eBay... Before listing fees and shipping cost, **I have made $7,202.50**... I would consider this to be a good profit." — *Jeremy W.*

Stay-At-Home Mom enjoys eBay Success!
"I am a stay-at-home mom with two busy boys, with not a lot of extra time. Thrive made me realize that **you don't need 60 hours a week to be successful**. Thrive Institute has taken a new concept for me and turned it into a simple step-by-step process of building a successful business online." — *Jennifer W.*

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RICHMOND	**CHILLIWACK**	**ABBOTSFORD**
Tuesday, January 20, 2009 10:00 am, 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm Four Points Sheraton Airport 8368 Alexandra Road	Wednesday, January 21, 2009 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm Best Western Rainbow Country Inn 43971 Industrial Way	Thursday, January 22, 2009 10:00 am, 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm Ramada Plaza Abbotsford 36035 North Parallel Road

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Investing

Allan Small
This is the year to make the most of your RRSP contribution. Read this week's column at metronews.ca

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Get financially fit

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While we might not be sure of the economic outlook for 2009, one thing we can be sure of is there are certain habits we should all be developing right now to take us through good times and bad. Here are some of the best ways to keep your head above water in 2009.

Scrutinize Spending

Have a gym membership you never use? Overspending on eating out? Overboard on giving gifts? The numbers don't lie. Track your spending for one month (minimum) and at the end of the month take a hard look at your spending.

Become your Own Advocate

Make 2009 your year to advocate for lower interest rates on all of your loans.

Pay the Taxman Less

If you have not done so already, now is the time to open your Tax Free Savings Account. If you have lost money in the stock market, which most of us have, you can also write off that loss against your taxes.

Save 20 per cent on Your Entertainment Costs

Most of us spend an average of $500 a month on meals out and entertainment with family and friends. Lowering that cost by just $100 a month would save you $1,200 a year. Simple ways to do that include packing your own lunch and using two-for-one coupons for movies and day trips.

Start a Money Group

For us, the key to financial success began with our Money Group. Whether it is with your better half, your friends or your family, setting a regular time to make a spending plan, review objectives and brainstorm ways to make more money will help you reach your financial goals faster and ensure you stay on track — and have fun doing so!

Make 2009 your year to advocate for lower interest rates on all of your loans.

Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong
Henry Choo Chong offers a reader advice on RRIFs. Read this week's column at metronews.ca

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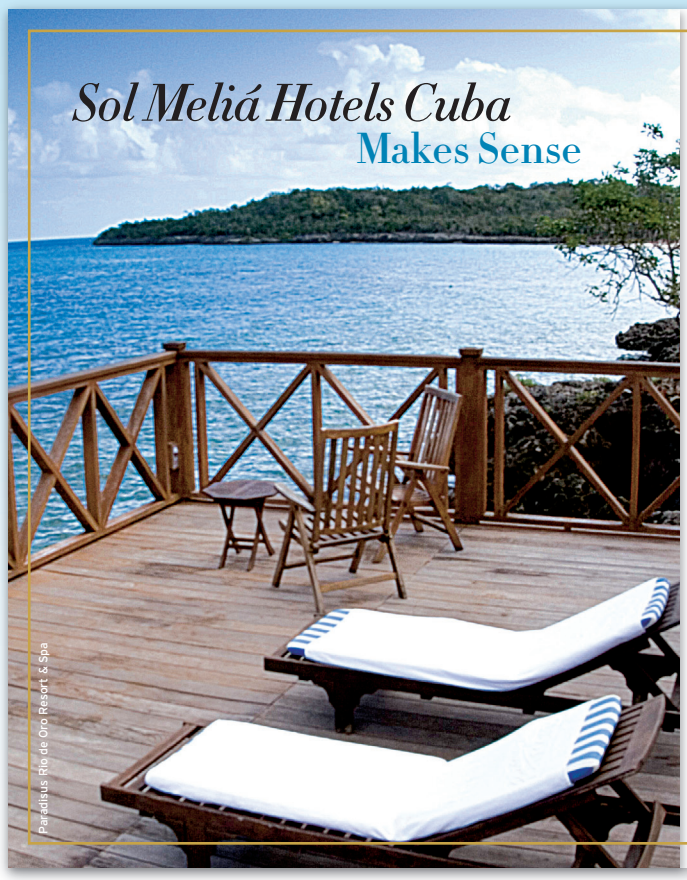

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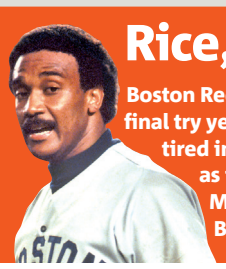
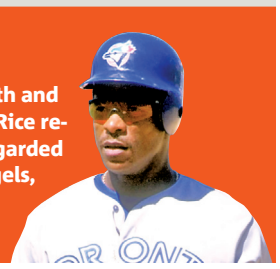
Wrigley game draws largest U.S. NHL regular-season TV audience in 34 years
The NHL Winter Classic drew the biggest American TV audience for a regular-season game in nearly 34 years, NBC said yesterday. The Red Wings' 6-4 win over the Blackhawks at Wrigley Field on New Year's Day attracted an average of 4.4 million viewers on NBC, the most since a Flyers-Rangers game on Feb. 23, 1975. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Rice, Rickey headed to Cooperstown

Boston Red Sox legend Jim Rice, left, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on his 15th and final try yesterday, while Rickey Henderson, right, made it in his first year of eligibility. Rice retired in 1989 with 382 home runs and 1,451 RBI in 16 seasons. Henderson, widely regarded as the best leadoff hitter ever, played for the A's, Yankees, Blue Jays, Padres, Angels, Mets, Mariners, Red Sox and Dodgers over 25 years and holds Major League Baseball's career records for runs and stolen bases. METRO NEWS SERVICES



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Tonight

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It's been over two weeks since the Canucks last won at GM Place, but almost 10 years since the Devils won a game at the Garage. New Jersey is in the middle of a season-high six game road trip, having split their first two games in L.A. and Anaheim. Vancouver dropped back-to-back games against St. Louis and San Jose on the weekend to see its home record fall to 11-8-2.

SKATER SHAKEUP: Alain Vigneault called out a number of his regulars yesterday, and will alter the lineup this evening. Taylor Pyatt makes his return after missing eight games with a broken foot and may play with Sundin, while Pavol Demitra could see fourth-line duty based on his play of late.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Champ laughing all the way to the bank

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

En route to the bank yesterday with his newly acquired millions, poker's latest whiz kid couldn't quite decide how he'd like his name spelled.

"I've spelled it Pooria, with an I, since I was little, but all my documents spell it Poorya, with a Y," he told me. "So what the heck? Go with the Y."

All rightie, then, Poorya Nazari it is. And rich is what this 22-year-old from Richmond Hill, Ont., is since collecting — and depositing — the $3 million US he garnered for finishing first on the weekend at the PokerStars Caribbean Adventure, the largest tournament outside Las Vegas.

Nazari's initial buy-in online was a mere $33, and he was one of 1,347 who qualified to participate in six days of play at Paradise Island in the Bahamas last week.

"I seriously started playing online (at pokerstars.net) last December and I was doing well, so I realized maybe I can do this for a living," Nazari mentioned on his way to his bank. "Even when I was in school, I spent most of my time playing poker."

Nazari graduated with a biochemistry degree from McMaster University last month but "my marks suffered and I barely scraped by with a degree."

Doesn't much matter to him at this point, he said. Oh, and a warning to anyone planning to ask him for loans: "The answer, more than likely, will be no."

• After attending and observing the Caribbean tourney, incidentally, I've decided poker qualifies as a sport — a mind sport.

Players can't win without fierce, competitive mindsets. And one of the toughest is a diminutive dynamo from Victoriaville, Que. — Isabelle (No Mercy) Mercier, who gave up her law practice for poker and has made hundreds of thousands at the table. She's fascinating. To find out why, check out my feature on her in Metro and at metronews.ca later this week.

• In baseball, don't be surprised if the Blue Jays soon appoint Washington Nationals president Stan Kasten as their new prez. It's essentially a done deal ... Kasten is also ex-bossman of the Atlanta Braves, who, by the way, are close to signing two prominent free agents — pitcher Derek Lowe and outfielder Adam Dunn ... The latest in the personal affairs of the New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez: He and Madonna are no more, but he dated actress Kate Hudson on the weekend ... And, yes, Rickey Henderson was a no-brainer for Hall of Fame nomination yesterday because he was the most prolific leadoff batter in history.

But what about Tim Raines, the second-best leadoff batter in history? Will he be perpetually bypassed by Hall voters because, like the perpetually bypassed Andre Dawson, he excelled with the old Montreal Expos?

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Penn. Bowl?

• Oddsmakers are anticipating an all-Pennsylvania Super Bowl, listing the Philadelphia Eagles as three-point favourites over the Arizona Cardinals in Sunday's NFC final and the Pittsburgh Steelers as six-point favourites over the Ravens in the AFC final.

CNW GROUP/POKERSTARS.NET

Canadian Poorya Nazari brought home $3 million US.

Learning Curve is a monthly feature that focuses on education and student life.

Learning Curve

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

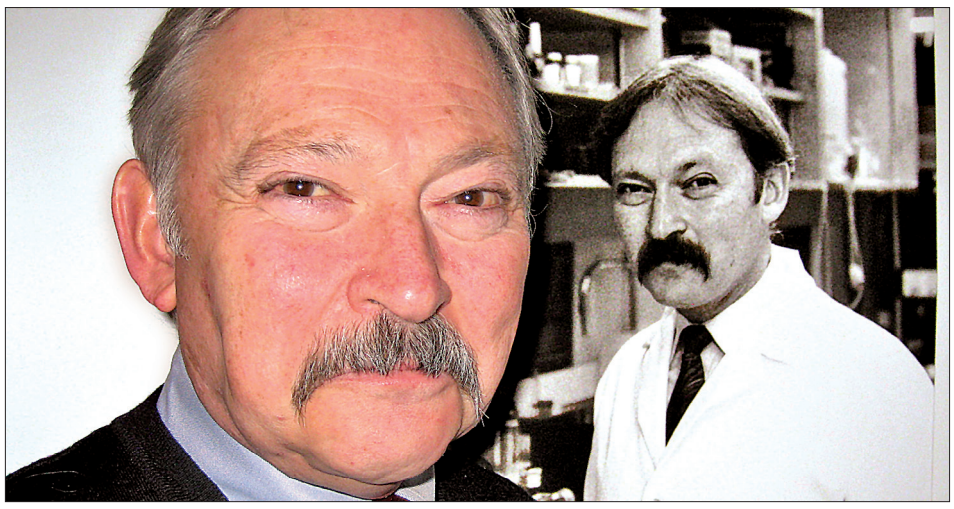
UBC prof named to Order of Canada

JESSICA SMITH
for Metro Vancouver

A UBC professor of ophthalmology has been named to Canada's highest civilian honour.

Dr. Max Cynader, director of the Brain Research Centre at the University of British Columbia Hospital, was appointed to the Order of Canada in December.

"I think the award at some level is to the field of brain research," he said. "Some of society's biggest problems over the next 50 years are going to be understanding how the brain works."



JESSICA SMITH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Dr. Max Cynader poses with a picture of himself, part of a poster on his office wall advertising his win of a 1995 Science Council of British Columbia award.

Cynader specializes in brain plasticity research — studying how the brain responds to challenges and stimuli. It's vital to understanding brain conditions and functions as diverse as Alzheimer's, strokes, dyslexia, fetal alcohol syndrome, vision and the ability to learn language as a child.

"It's neurons that fire together, wire together," Cynader said, offering a brain plasticity slogan. "And what I've tried to do is understand the molecular mechanisms by which that works."

Cynader's research nearly rocketed him into space.

He applied to the Canadian space program in the mid-'80s because his research could help astronauts overcome the intense nausea they feel in space, he said.

He made it to the short list, but no further.

Cynader had better luck in the mid-'90s when he co-founded NeuroVir, a Vancouver-based biotech company that developed a treatment for brain cancer based on a virus that can destroy targeted cells. NeuroVir was bought by a German company for $140 million and the treatment is now in the late stages of clinical testing, he said.

Cynader's life outside of brain research revolves around his wife and three kids and tennis.

> **"I think the award at some level is to the field of brain research."**
> Dr. Max Cynader

Chris Crossfield, his coworker for the past eight years and managing director of the Brain Research Centre, chooses Cynader's goal to reach the Wimbledon seniors final as the most telling example of his personality.

"It comes back to his all-round capacities," he said, and launched into a list of the accomplishments of the almost-astronaut, entrepreneur, researcher and professor.

Job autonomy blurs work-life balance, new research shows

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

People who make their own schedules tend to bring more work home, creating greater potential for family conflict, a recent study shows.

The study by University of Toronto sociology professor Scott Schieman and doctoral candidate Paul Glavin surveyed 2,600 American workers. It found that those with the most job autonomy and control of their work schedules were more likely to bring extra work home with them or continue to send out work-related e-mails and make business calls.

Bringing more work home can cause more stress because it can cause the line between work and family life to disappear.

"Generally, people who had more schedule control and job autonomy had more work-family role blurring, and that's a big predictor of stress for most people. It's also a key indicator of work-family conflict," Schieman said.

The lesson is that while taking calls on your Blackberry at dinner might help you get some extra work done, it certainly won't endear you to your family and is a likely sign you haven't let go of the workplace.

"Having more schedule control and job autonomy often makes it hard to turn work off. If something still needs to be done after you've clocked out, you haven't really clocked out," Schieman said.

While modern technology has made greater flexibility in the workplace possible, Schieman says that freedom comes with a new price: Expectation.

"The flexibility cuts both ways because you're always available and people in the workplace know that. The old idea of 'normal' work hours just seems to be redefined for many people," he said.

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• The School of Computing Science at Simon Fraser University offers a Major or Honours in Computing Science and joint programs with Business, Mathematics, Linguistics, Philosophy and Molecular Biology and Biochemistry.

• We are pleased to announce a new, hands-on program called Software Systems that centres on software development. This program is offered exclusively at SFU's state-of-the-art Surrey campus.

JESSICA SMITH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Amanda Church, 27, stands in front the Metro Vancouver office in Burnaby, where she works as a liaison between the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Metro Vancouver on climate action. She is also a masters student at Simon Fraser University.

SFU approves new faculty

JESSICA SMITH
for Metro Vancouver

Simon Fraser University is opening an interdisciplinary faculty of the environment — only it doesn't yet have a name.

The SFU senate approved the new faculty in December and students will be able to enrol for an environment degree beginning fall 2010.

"There is a strong sentiment within some quarters of the university to make it the faculty of the environment and sustainability," said John Clague, an earth sciences professor and chair of the academic committee that helped design the new faculty. "Sustainability being an important human issue, or social issue," he added.

Regardless of whether sustainability will be reflected in the faculty's name, human and social issues will play a key role in the environment curriculum.

"The idea is to bridge this traditional barrier between the physical sciences and the social sciences," Clague said.

He admits "interdisciplinary" is a buzzword in academia, but points to climate change as one of many environmental problems, normally taught in the sciences, that requires co-operation between disciplines for a solution. Understanding human behaviour through fields like sociology is important in finding a solution to climate change that people will accept, he said.

Amanda Church, a student in her last semester of her masters of Earth sciences degree at SFU, said she would have liked to have learned more about economics during her degree.

"When you think about things like offset programs and carbon trading markets, it's just going to become a huge area in the climate change field," she said.

There are many more decisions, beyond the faculty's name that still need to be confirmed, including details about staffing and funding.

The program idea is already intriguing students, but unfortunately, Church will have graduated by the time the faculty opens.

"I would take some economics, I'd take some law, some policy, I've got the science pretty nailed down," she said. "And a lot of the stuff going on in green design and urban planning now is really really interesting, so maybe I'd take something there."

Most want to marry doctor: Poll

It really does pay to be a doctor, with an international survey showing the medical profession is the most trusted, among the most admired and includes the most eligible marriage partners.

By contrast, actors and musicians, along with journalists and advertisers, were among professionals that people trusted the least, and were also least likely to choose a partner from, according to a survey by Synovate, the market research arm of Aegis Group.

"Much of who we are is tied up in what we do in the hours from nine to five, and often way beyond," a Synovate statement said.

"Asking someone what they do for a living is often the first question you ask them; right after 'What's your name?'"

The survey polled about 5,500 respondents in Brazil, Canada, China, France, Malaysia, South Africa and the United States.

REUTERS

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Learning Curve is a monthly feature that focuses on education and student life.

Lecture explores Battlestar themes

RICHARD WOODBURY
for Metro Canada

What does the television series Battlestar Galactica have in common with Virgil's Aeneid and Mary Shelley's Frankenstein? A lot more than you might think.

"These are very fundamental stories of our culture," says Peggy Heller, the Foundation Year Programme director at the University of King's College in Halifax. The overlapping theme is about how something turns against man.

Heller will be speaking about this topic in a lecture titled Stories of Exile and Revenge at the University Women's Club of Vancouver (1489 McRae Ave.) on Feb. 5.

Organized by the local King's alumni chapter, "It's a way of us connecting both with our alumni and with people who maybe want to join us to give them a sense of what goes on here and meet people," says Heller.

A scene from the popular TV show, Battlestar Galactica.

In Battlestar Galactica, a group of humans flee into outer space, persecuted by the machines they created. In The Aeneid, a small group of survivors flee a burning city and are pursued by a vengeful god. In Frankenstein, a scientist creates a being in the likeness of man, but the creature turns against him.

Heller was drawn to Battlestar Galactica because she came to see it "as a kind of retelling and mixture of this ancient and modern myth." She likes how it's plotted, its complexity, and because it raises "all sorts of profound questions at the same time."

Profound questions, you say?

"All science fiction probably raises questions about what it is to be human in relation to machines, technology in general, what's our future, what does it mean to live on an earth that might disappear," says Heller. "We have a certain sense of time I think that's different than people used to have in that we think of the possibility we ourselves might destroy our own homeland, which I think is probably unimaginable in previous eras."

Much like ancient Greek drama was a way of self-reflection, Heller says popular television is the modern way of social commentary. "Looking back to the myths of the past, they would take these ancient stories and would retell them in a way that was a commentary on the dilemmas they were facing. It seems certain television does that today," she says.

"Present stories stumble on to an ancient tradition," says Heller. "Consciously or unconsciously, they draw upon older stories, problems we've been wrestling with all the time."

Initiative tackles family literacy

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

You might have heard, "Pick up a book; TV just rots your brain," when you were a kid. Turns out that might have been right.

Young and old alike will crack spines together on Jan. 23 for Family Literacy Day, an initiative sponsored by private sector literacy foundation ABC Canada. The date will feature various events nationwide aimed at promoting reading and breaking a Guinness World Record for most children reading with an adult, multiple locations.

The activity, however, may prove more important for adults than kids. The latest data (2003) from Statistics Canada and the international Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) revealed disturbing numbers. Four out of 10 Canadians aged 16 to 65 have problems reading material beyond a Grade 11 level, with 16 per cent of Canadians struggling with a reading level above grades 5 or 6.

"It's concerning because while our economy in the past has given us lots of jobs for people with low skills, those jobs are disappearing very quickly," says Margaret Eaton, president of ABC Canada. "As the labour market changes, Canadians are not going to have the skills they need to participate."

The problem transcends economic concerns, notes Eaton. Poor reading skills can lead to misunderstanding food and prescription drug labels, poor workplace safety, barriers to comprehending public information and less civic engagement.

In his 2007 book, The Assault on Reason, former U.S. vice-president Al Gore cites television, not the printed word, as the chief means of gaining information about the world around us, a one-way medium that by its visceral nature hinders reflective thought and reasoned public discourse.

Eaton is reticent to "make television the villain." Shame tops the list of a number of barriers that adults face. Much like recovering from alcoholism, admitting the problem is the first step to solving it.

"A lot of people end up masking their issues. They have coping strategies they use instead of trying to face it head on," she said. "It's hard to learn to read, particularly for those who have learning disabilities who didn't get them addressed early on."

But rising mediums may yield a brighter future. While they won't teach literacy, text-heavy websites will certainly encourage it, Eaton said.

"Computers, video games, all of those mediums involve a lot of text reading and can be a tremendous boon," she said.

"We suggest you surf the net or play video games with your kids, because those are the kinds of family activities that promote literacy."

Family Literacy Day — which aims to promote reading — takes place on Jan. 23.

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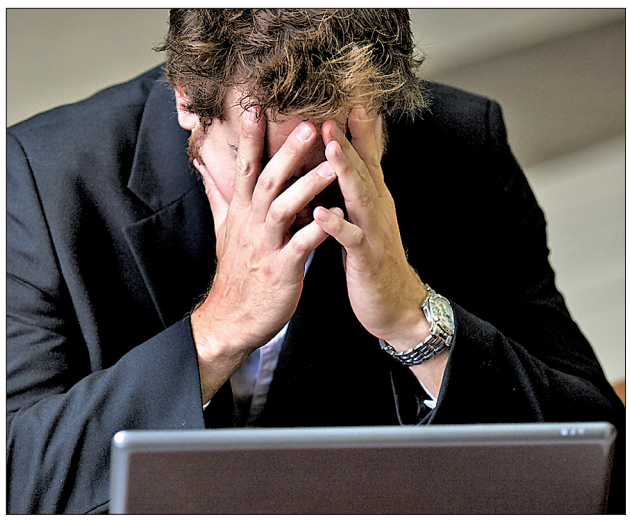

More than 60 per cent of Canadians are unhappy about work.

Work woes depressing, survey finds

NOELLE MUNARETTO
for Metro Canada

Canadians will awaken to face the most depressing day of the entire year on Monday.

The event, nicknamed Blue Monday, was originally conceived by a British researcher who theorized that cold weather, holiday bills and broken New Year's resolutions leave people down in the dumps.

However, a recent survey by Everest College and Harris/Decima found that more than 60 per cent of Canadians are actually feeling most unhappy about their work and the crumbling economy.

Don Thibert, director of academic affairs for Everest Canada, says that even though many factors point to an impending recession, this can be the best time to develop new skill sets and career options through education.

"There's a great opportunity to take advantage of the programs that are out there to go and get retrained," says Thibert. "Take a look at the careers that really don't experience big fluctuations in employment based on economic trends."

Aside from providing more job security, re-training for a more recession-proof field means that you are more likely to advance within that area in the future.

"Part of the depression in the survey was that people didn't see any growth for them in the next year or two in their job," says Thibert.

"There's a natural, inherent part in every human that we would like to see ourselves progress."

"Part of the depression ... was that people didn't see any growth for them in the next year or two in their job." Don Thibert

Thibert also says that those who think proactively, by training for a career they love, will be better prepared to stick through tough financial times.

"Never stop learning. You can never have too many skills," he says.

Anthony Oliver, a network security specialist student at Everest, spent years in dead-end jobs before he realized a change was necessary.

"I wanted a role that meant something. Rather than just being a worker I wanted a career," said Oliver. "Without education you're going to be doing jobs without growth. The more education you have the more opportunities for career advancement you have."

Though Oliver was employed as a security guard, he took a leap of faith by leaving the position despite the economic uncertainty around him. He began researching careers on the Internet and said he found that the IT industry was still prospering.

Like Thibert, Oliver says that prospective students can seek help from provincial programs aimed at guiding people towards the right career path.

"Knowing that there might be an economy crunch, if you have the opportunity to get funding for training then go for it," adds Oliver.

It's a good feeling to land a great job. If you'd like to enhance your career prospects or train for a more senior position, check out B.C.'s No. 1 college.

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Automotive Collision Repair Technician
Monday, Jan. 19, 10 a.m. – Collision Body Shop
Broadway campus, 1155 East Broadway

Access to Dental Hygiene for CDAs
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EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Recession romance

Tips on helping your relationship endure the hard times

The J Spot

Josey Vogels

Sex talk with Josey

You can hardly turn a newspaper page these days without someone offering strategies on how to "recession-proof" something.

Recession proof your portfolio, your career, your business, your pet's retirement savings plan. How about recession-proofing your relationship?

There's no doubt that with the impending economic challenges ahead, relationships will feel the strain. Losing your job or your home or falling on hard financial times are almost never to-do suggestions in any of those how-to-strengthen-your relationship guidebooks.

In her predictions for 2009, Petra Boynton, a U.K. sex educator (drpetra.co.uk) foresees "increased separation and divorce rates, substance and alcohol abuse, violence within relationships, and extramarital activity."

A lost job, for example, not only results in financial strain, but there can be psychological problems faced by the person who is unemployed that can lead to tension, arguments, blame and worry. Also, as people cut back on spending, they won't be able to enjoy activities that have usually helped them bond as a couple, like travelling or nights out together.

Financial troubles can take a toll on your relationship.

In order to "recession-proof" your relationship, Boynton suggests working together to identify any areas where you can save money:

- Draw up a budget to see if you are wasting any cash.
- Seek financial advice if things are difficult.
- Remember that you don't have to spend money to enjoy being together. Come up with a list of free or low-cost activities — a walk in the local park, an evening where you cook a meal you share by candlelight, doing volunteer work together.
- Speak up about your concerns now. Financial issues have a habit of getting worse if you ignore them.

If and when problems do come up, be sure to offer each other support rather than trying to "fix" each other's worries, adds Boynton.

If things get really tough, counselling, either individually or as a couple, may help.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

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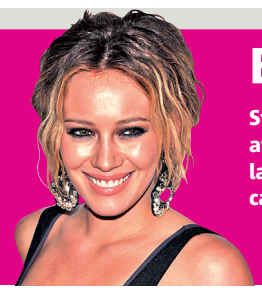
Madagascar leads foreign box office
Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa led the foreign box office for the fifth time in six weekends. The animated sequel earned an estimated $15.8 million US from 61 markets, pushing its total to $366 million. REUTERS

Entertainment

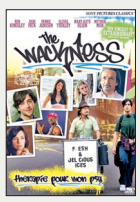


Barely Legal
Singer/actress Hilary Duff is attached to play a young lawyer in a new Fox sitcom called Barely Legal.
REUTERS

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

DVD picks

The Wackness
Director: Jonathan Levine
Rating: 18A



LIKE JAMES FRANCO'S character in Pineapple Express, Josh Peck plays a drug dealer in The Wackness, a film far gentler and more insightful than its surface glibness implies. But Peck's Luke is nowhere near as mellow as Franco's Saul.

It's the summer of 1994, an era pointed to by the title slang in which things that are bad are "wack" and things that are good are "dope." Things are wack for Luke even though he's making major coin selling dope from an ice cream cart on the broiling streets of New York.

"Do you ever feel kind of like a f–k up?" he asks his shrink Dr. Squires (Ben Kingsley), who has every reason to answer in the affirmative. Dr. Squires is having his own life issues. His wife Kristin (Famke Janssen) despises him and his stepdaughter Stephanie (Olivia Thirlby) treats him with contempt. The doc medicates his problems by smoking the weed Josh gives him as payment for psychiatric sessions.

The Wackness is almost too quirky to be believed, and this Sundance sensation frequently treads towards the squishy ground of contrived characters with dialogue. But director-screenwriter Jonathan Levine has learned a trick or two since his first feature, All the Boys Love Mandy Lane, heading soon to a DVD delete bin near you. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lost voice of rock

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

There are plenty of terrible things that can happen to a band on the road, but almost nothing can derail an up-and-coming act like a singer busting her vocal chords. That's what happened to Land of Talk, an infectious rock trio that could soon oust Arcade Fire as the most-talked-about Montreal band.

During the band's September tour, lead singer Elizabeth Powell lost her voice for 15 days. A stint as the female lead in Broken Social Scene through the fall — she officially joined the group last week — and a pre-existing problem with her pipes means the eclectic frontwoman is headed for surgery and will likely be out of commission until at least April.

JOSEPH YARMUSH PHOTO

Elizabeth Powell lost her voice on tour last fall. Now she needs surgery and will be out of commission until at least April.

It's bad news for an act that international audiences are just becoming familiar with. "This is so classic," she says. "Right when you have momentum something drastic happens."

While this setback is serious it's not going to stop Land of Talk entirely. The vigorous Metric-meets-Sonic Youth three-piece plan to write and record during the hiatus. "This is probably the best thing for me and the band in a way," says Powell. "We put out an album in the fall (debut Some Are Lakes) and it was great, but we have a lot of things to work out still."

Up until now they've received rave reviews from the likes of Spin Magazine and Rolling Stone, they've toured Europe and North America and they call Saddle Creek, Bright Eyes' label, home. "A lot of people have been saying nice things about the record, but unless you're out there you don't feel it," she explains. "We stopped touring a few weeks ago and already I feel very detached."

In brief

TELEVISION American Idol returns for its eighth season tonight with a new judge, a better showcase for talented singers and a wary eye on its status as America's most-watched television show.
REUTERS

GlobalStyle
Kenya Hunt

Exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

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IntelleVision
Rick McGinnis

Read it at metronews.ca

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/13/09	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Wild Roses (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News	The Insider	The Biggest Loser (N) (CC)				Ruby (CC)	The Dish	News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	American Idol (Season Premiere) (N) (CC)				Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	The Daily	Frasier (CC)	Islam 101 (CC)		Poltergeist: The Legacy		Scrubs (CC)	The Search	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	NCIS "Broken Bird" (N) (CC)		90210 (N) (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares "Cafe 36"		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N) (CC)	Cold Case (CC)		Law & Order "Called Home"		(:01) Without a Trace (N)		News (CC)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Scrubs (N)	Scrubs (N)	Privileged (N) (CC)		Primetime: What Would		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	90210 (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	NCIS "Broken Bird" (N) (CC)		The Mentalist "Red Rum" (N)		(:01) Without a Trace (N)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	The Biggest Loser (N) (CC)				Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Extreme Celebrity Debt		Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked		Maxed Out
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Homeland Security USA (N)		Scrubs (N)	Scrubs (N)	Primetime: What Would		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Cops and Robbersons ★★ (1994, Comedy) Chevy Chase.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	About-Money	Nova (CC) (DVS)		The Ascent of Money (N) (CC)				Rick Steves
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol (Season Premiere) (N) (CC)				News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	(6:00) The Ascent of Money		My Hero	Summer Wine	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Nova (CC) (DVS)	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Skin Secrets
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	90210 (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Bring Wall St	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		(:37) The Biggest Loser: Families (CC)			Will & Grace
news	502	390	26 NW	Selling Sex in Heaven (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Selling Sex in Heaven (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	The Ultimate Fighter		Hockey	Canucks TV	Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			In This Corner	Heads-Up Poker Champ.		Rodeo: PRCA National Finals		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Bounty Hunter	Dakar Rally	Survivorman (CC)		Mantracker "Buck & RJ"		Bounty Hunter	Dakar Rally	Survivorman
	410	403	54 SCR	Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		World Poker Crown		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	(4:00) Barrett-Jackson Automobile Auction (Live)				Barrett-Jackson Automobile Auction Tuesday action from Scottsdale, Ariz.				
	416	409	144 GLF	Footballers	Legends	Gol TV News	100 Mejores Goles ano		Gol TV News	Paid Program	Art of Football	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Scorpion	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach "Wake Jam"		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6teen (CC)	6teen (CC)	Misadventures	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Gay Couple
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Max & Ruby	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Big Comfy
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Gardens	Recreat. Eden	Cola Conquest (CC)		A President to Remember (N) (CC)			Our Brand Is Crisis ★★★	
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Wishes (CC)		Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
	570	580	24 MM	Degrassi	Instant Star	MuchTopTens (CC)		Punk'd (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	Technical Diff.	Video on Trial	Video on Trial
	600	564	29 H&G	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Holmes on Homes (CC)		Sarah's House	Design Inc.	Pure Design	Style	Colin-Justin
	615	520	31 A&E	Manhunters	Manhunters	The Rookies	The Rookies	The First 48 (CC)		The First 48 "River's Edge"		Manhunters
	628	584	32 SPKE	UFC Unleashed		MANswers	MANswers	CSI: NY "Boo" (CC)		Disorderly Conduct: Video		Videos
	521	560	34 TLC	Sextuplets and Twins		Little People	Little People	Sextuplets and Twins		Sextuplets and Twins		Little People
	616	522	39 SHO	The Outer Limits "Descent"		Mutant X (CC)		Testees (CC)	Trailer Park	House "Frozen" (CC)		House (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	Chantal -- Live		Law & Order "Whiplash"		Without a Trace "Trials"		Not One Less ★★ (1999) Wei Minzhi. (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Matchmaker	Date My Ex: Jo & Slade		Trading Spouses		Biggest Loser
	520	505	42 DIS	Toughest Race: Iditarod		Daily Planet (CC)		Destroyed	Time Warp	Toughest Race: Iditarod		How It's Made
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "Faking It" (CC)		Ultimate Engineering (CC)		Ax Men (CC)		NCIS "Faking It" (CC)		Re-Inventors
	627	528	45 SPC	Destination Truth (CC)		Stargate SG-1 "Holiday"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek: Ent.
	294	650	47 TBS	The Office	The Office	10 Items-Less	Seinfeld	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Laffapalooza! (CC)		10 Items-Less
	619	525	48 TROP	Planet Soap	Big Screen	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married... With	Seinfeld
	603	561	52 FN	Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef America (CC)		Challenge (CC)		The F Word		Good Eats
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	S. Silverman	Flt.-Conchords	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	The Secret (2007) David Duchovny, Lili Taylor.		The 11th Hour ★★★ (2007) (CC)				(:05) Mr. Brooks ★★ (2007) Kevin Costner.		
	581	566	101 MTV	A Double Shot at Love (N)		MTV Live	After	Next (CC)	The City	A Double Shot at Love		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	A Deadly Silence (N)		Poltergeist: The Legacy		The Solid Gold Cadillac ★★★ (1956) Judy Holliday. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	109 MUL	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Il Caffe		In Germany	Euromaxx	Schauplatz	Euro. Journal	Patrol World

critics' corner

American Idol
And here we go again! Television's hottest competition starts as it always does, with footage from the early audition rounds, where judges Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul, Randy Jackson and new addition Kara DioGuardi try to find the truly talented among the William Hung wannabes and the genuinely clueless. In addition to a fourth judge, changes this season include expanding the number of semifinalists to 36 and bringing back the wild-card round. 8 PM on FOX

Corner Gas
Hank as the Dog River ambassador? Whoever decided that needs his head examined. In "American in Saskatchewan," Hank (Fred Ewanuick) is assigned to show an American around, but he stinks at it. So Brent (Brent Butt) steps in to undo the mess. Karen (Tara Spencer-Nairn) decides she should finally learn to speak French, but Dog River is seriously lacking in Francophones. 4 PM on COM

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Paltrow ready to pump

Gwyneth Paltrow is set to launch a worldwide chain of gyms with her personal trainer, Tracy Anderson, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The duo is set to build a chain of gyms across Europe, Asia and Australia. METRO NEWS SERVICES

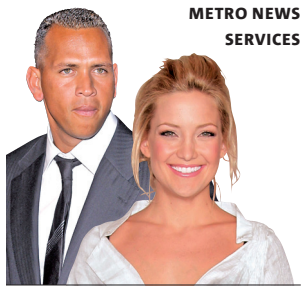
Celebrity Buzz

A-Rod moves on from Madge?

RELATIONSHIPS Looks like A-Rod's forgotten all about Madonna. Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez has allegedly moved on from the pop superstar and is now dating actress Kate Hudson, according to Page Six.

The two were spotted enjoying a three-hour dinner in New York recently, and eyewitnesses say they were getting very cozy. Though the dinner was with a group of friends, the two headed out to a bar together afterward.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Daniel talks secret tattoos

PEOPLE Daniel Craig has a secret intimate tattoo, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The James Bond star has confessed he has a piece of body art only people who have seen him naked can describe, the website says.

Speaking to Jay Leno, he said: "I have a couple of tattoos where you'd see them. There's another where you wouldn't. It's hidden away."

The 40-year-old didn't describe the artwork, although it is believed to start with the letter H.

Craig's other tattoos include a design on his right upper arm and one on the inside of his right calf.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Amy faces lonely vacay, divorce

DIVORCE Amy Winehouse is having a bad week. She is said to be distraught over the departure of 21-year-old British actor Josh Bowman who she struck up a romance with — despite being married to jailed Blake Fielder-Civil — while staying at the Le Sport resort on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Meanwhile, the jailed husband of the singer has started divorce proceedings against her, according to people.com.

The website says Fielder-Civil has instructed a lawyer to file papers. "I can confirm that I have been instructed to commence divorce proceedings on the grounds of Amy's adultery," Henri Brandman told People.

The singer's dad Mitch is flying out to St. Lucia to console his daughter, after her new boyfriend flew home from his vacation on the island with his mother and grandmother, femalefirst.co.uk says.

A guest at the hotel told Britain's The Sun newspaper: "Amy was very upset. She was in tears and kept telling Josh she loved him and would see him again soon."

A source added: "Amy has been calling Mitch every day to tell him she is totally besotted. Mitch wants Josh to know he will have their support."

Amy, 25, has credited her meeting Josh and the Caribbean break for changing her outlook on life.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fergie and Josh on honeymoon

MARRIAGE After leaving their wedding party after 2 a.m. Sunday, Fergie and her new husband — the freshly minted Mr. and Mrs. Josh Duhamel — left that same afternoon for a tropical honeymoon, people.com reports.

The singer, 33, and the actor, 36, had tied the knot at the Church Estates Vineyards in Malibu.

When the newlyweds arrived at Los Angeles International airport around 2 p.m., Fergie showed off multiple plain and diamond studded wedding bands.

"They pulled up in a limo SUV, and Fergie got out first and smiled. She looked so happy. After Josh got out with a carry-on bag, he immediately grabbed Fergie's hand in a very loving and protective way," one eyewitness tells People.

"Fergie said that the wedding was amazing before Josh chimed in and added that the wedding was great."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

J.Lo and Marc jump on Obama bandwagon?

POLITICS Jennifer Lopez and hubby Marc Anthony have found a way to bask in Barack Obama's glow — even though they didn't publicly support him until after he got elected, reports Page Six.

The gossip column says Anthony agreed to sing and Lopez said she would "speak" at the Latino Inaugural Ball in Washington on Jan. 18, two nights before the swearing-in. But some Latinos for Obama are furious that the wealthy couple didn't support the Democratic nominee until he'd won.

One power player called them "vile opportunists for worming themselves into anything Obama-related even though they had nothing to do with his win."

According to the source, Anthony refused to perform for Obama during a crucial get-out-the-Latino-vote event in Orlando, Fla., two weeks before the election. Lopez refused to endorse Obama unless he called her himself, which he didn't.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fur flies, claws come out for Palin and Fey

PEOPLE Sarah Palin doesn't understand why Tina Fey, a winner again for 30 Rock, was hailed as 2008's entertainer of the year, and Fey doesn't understand why Palin doesn't understand, eonline.com reports.

"I don't understand it, either," Fey told E! after winning at the Golden Globes on Sunday night. "There are a lot of things that she and I don't understand."

E! tried to get Fey to comment on Palin's criticism of the Bristol Palin-inspired Saturday Night Live crack about teenage marriage, but Fey wouldn't further provoke Palin.

"No reaction," Fey told the entertainment show.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Comeback too soon, Brit's ex-manager says

CAREER Britney Spears' former manager is speaking out about her current comeback. Johnny Wright — who parted ways with the singer in 2003 and sued her in 2007 for money he was owed — thinks that Britney's return to showbiz is too soon. "A comeback is not what I wish for Britney," Wright told OK! Magazine. "All her essential relationships have been torn apart. She's been divorced twice, she doesn't have custody of her kids, she's being pushed back into being a money machine."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Duchovny talks treatment

PEOPLE In his first public appearance since seeking treatment for sex addiction, David Duchovny thanked his family for standing by him, usmagazine.com reports.

"I'm just most thankful for my life and my family. My wife and my kids — the simple things in life. My gratitude opens my heart every day. I feel blessed," he said before the Golden Globes.

Last summer the actor voluntarily entered rehab for sex addiction. He and wife Tea Leoni later announced they were separating, but remain on friendly terms.

"You do change ... it's all about the actions," he said. "I hope the people close to me and my loved ones feel the change."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Today Cloudy 7°/ 1°
Wednesday Mainly sunny 6° / 0°
Thursday Mainly sunny 7° / 2°
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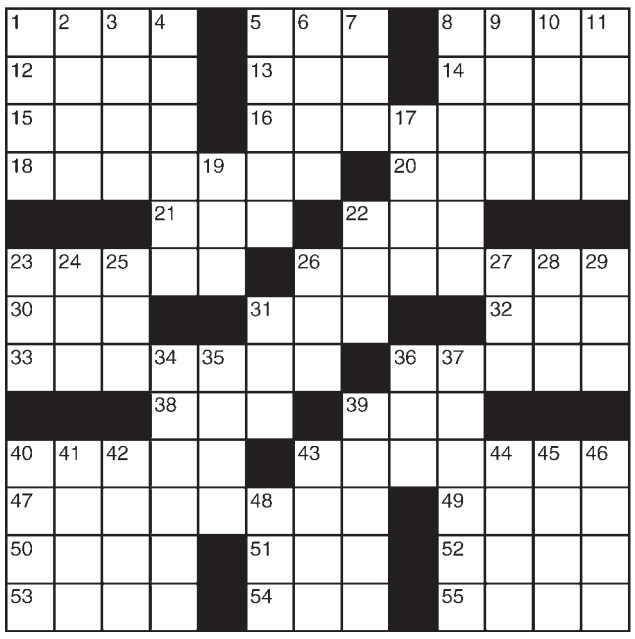
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Help a lawbreaker
5 James Bond, e.g.
8 Pitch
12 Note to self
13 UN work agcy.
14 Top-rated
15 Hotel employee
16 Lefty
18 Do better at the box office
20 Thready streaks
21 Chat room chuckling
22 Suitable
23 Westminster, for one
26 Michigan city
30 Tavern
31 Carton
32 Wool provider
33 Louisiana tribe
36 Cell, perhaps
38 Glutton
39 Festive
40 Light bulb gas
43 Carpentry tool
47 Saskatchewan city
49 Hindu noble
50 Rim
51 Wapiti
52 Somewhere out there
53 Night light?
54 Plaything
55 Alluring

Crossword down

1 Bullets, arrows, etc.
2 Suitor
3 Discharge
4 Walk unsteadily
5 Twine fibre
6 Turn the soil
7 Addressee
8 Papeete's island
9 "My bad"
10 Break suddenly
11 Stitches
17 Tiny branch
19 Trigger's rider
22 — modem
23 "Lost" network
24 Scrooge's cry
25 Family guy?
26 Spread seeds
27 Ultra-modernist (Pref.)
28 Grain bristle
29 Teensy
31 Satchel
34 Selected
35 Color quality
36 Skillet
37 Problems that multiply
39 Maladroit
40 Prayer end
41 Took the train
42 Spirited and aggressive
43 Head light?
44 Secure
45 Trojan War hero
46 Cautious
48 Lustrous black

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	6						2	
	3	2		9		4	5	
4			5		1			8
		8	1		2	3		
		1	4		8	5		
7			9		3			5
	1	3		6		7	9	
	5						6	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

R	O	A	D	■	M	A	T	■	S	E	L	F		
Y	A	L	E	■	A	G	A	■	I	L	I	E		
E	T	A	L	■	D	E	M	A	N	D	E	D		
S	H	R	E	W	D	■	E	M	B	O	S	S		
■	■	■	T	R	E	Y	■	P	A	R	■	■		
D	E	M	E	A	N	O	R	■	D	A	N	A		
O	V	A	■	P	E	K	O	E	■	D	O	N		
W	A	L	K	■	D	E	M	I	J	O	H	N		
■	■	D	I	P	■	D	A	R	E	■	■	■		
A	N	E	M	I	A	■	N	E	T	T	L	E		
D	E	M	O	C	R	A	T	■	S	I	A	M		
E	V	E	N	■	I	I	I	■	A	N	T	I		
N	E	R	O	■	A	R	C	■	M	E	E	T		

6	9	2	8	5	4	3	1	7
5	7	8	3	1	9	6	2	4
3	1	4	7	6	2	5	9	8
2	4	9	6	8	7	1	5	3
7	3	1	4	9	5	8	6	2
8	6	5	2	3	1	4	7	9
1	8	7	5	2	3	9	4	6
9	2	3	1	4	6	7	8	5
4	5	6	9	7	8	2	3	1

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken Breasts with Tarragon

INGREDIENTS:
4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, about 6 oz (170 g) each
2 tbsp (25 ml) plain flour
Salt and black pepper
1 1/2 tbsp (20 ml) unsalted butter
1 1/2 tbsp (20 ml) sunflower oil
2 shallots
4 sprigs of fresh tarragon
3/4 cup (175 ml) dry white wine
1 1/3 cups (325 ml) chicken stock
4 tbsp (60 ml) whipping cream

METHOD:
1. Preheat oven to low. Trim excess fat from breasts and pat dry with paper towel. Dust with flour and season lightly.
2. Heat butter and 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil in frying pan over moderate heat and fry breasts for about 6 minutes per side.
3. Peel and chop shallots. Rinse and dry tarragon, snip off ends and reserve as garnish; strip leaves from remaining stems, chop and set aside.
4. Transfer chicken to oven to keep warm. Add shallots to pan with remaining oil and fry, stirring, for 1 minute. Add wine and half the chopped tarragon. Boil until wine has reduced by half. Add chicken stock and reduce by half again.
5. Stir in whipping cream and remaining chopped tarragon, return chicken to pan, and warm through for 1 minute per side. Serve garnished with tarragon tips.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A complimentary person is hard to figure out. Work quickly to get a job done properly. Find the humour when a man apologizes.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A straight-talking person has the power of endurance. Problems lead you to discover that someone loves you. An unfaithful guy does a nasty job.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
An insomniac achieves something special. Watch your reaction to a strong temptation. A reality lesson is learned by a reluctant man.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Give yourself permission to find wealth. A lonely person will go away to a better place. Someone is bowing to your will to succeed.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A helpful foreigner aids your plans. Reduce your anxiety with a change of direction. Don't be afraid to have second thoughts.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Grumpiness will change a plan. An insignificant effort will pay off. Your reputation gets more attention.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A funny woman will lift your spirits. Learn the true meaning of courage. A lack of common sense causes jagged nerves.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A message prevents a challenge. Avoid getting stuck in your memories. Someone who has tacky taste can help you.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A stimulating talk will break new ground. Inventive help comes from somebody who is stressed. You'll be able to move again.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You can refuse a melodramatic person's help. A fresh reaction will inflame gossipers. An anxious guy wants you to give a pep talk.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
You can refuse a melodramatic person's help. A fresh reaction will inflame gossipers. An anxious guy wants you to give a pep talk.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Some people are doubtful about your plans. You must face an aversion if you want to conquer it. An early-bird will be punished.

This day in history

JAN. 13, 1842: Dr. William Brydon, a surgeon in the British Army during the First Anglo-Afghan War, becomes famous for being the sole survivor of an army of 16,500 when he reaches the safety of a garrison in Jalalabad.
JAN. 13, 1938: The Church of England accepts the theory of evolution.
JAN. 13, 1942: Henry Ford patents a plastic automobile, which is 30 per cent lighter than a regular car.
JAN. 13, 1922: Japan apologizes for forcing Korean women into sexual slavery during World War II.

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